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ECA STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES FOR 1990-1991, THE STATISTICAL WORK PROGRAMME 1992-1993, AND THE PROVISIONAL WORK PROGRAMME 1994-1995

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21. STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The staffing situation of ECA Statistics Division has significantly improved during the biennium 1990-1991 compared with the preceding biennium. The Division had an average of 91 per cent of the total of professional work-monthly originally provided for it in the work programme budget, as against 68 per cent during the biennium 1988-1989. A list of professional staff in the Statistics Division is attached as Annex I.

2. However, only 87 per cent of the total work-months were available during the period under review due to prevailing local situation during mid-1991. In addition, the staff of the Division had been given a special assignment relating to the processing of the ECA survey for the final review of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) which took approximately 11 per cent of the resources. In the final analysis, only 76 per cent of the total work-months were actually available during the biennium 1990-1991 for delivery of planned outputs.

3. As in the past, a number of technical assistance activities undertaken by the Statistics Division were financed from extra-budgetary resources under specific statistical projects. Thus, a large number of advisory missions were carried out in the areas of statistical training, basic economic statistics, demographic statistics and household surveys.

4. It is proposed that the Joint Conference should review the ECA statistical activities during the biennium 1990-1991, taking into account the relevant work programme (Annex II), consider the approved 1992-1993 work programme (Annex III) and the proposed 1994-1995 work programme narrative (Annex IV).

II. WORK PERFORMANCE (1990-1991)

5. During the biennium 1990-1991, the activities under the statistics programme were expected to respond to the continuing and growing need for reliable and up-to-date data to assist African countries in the preparation, monitoring and evaluation of their development programmes.

6. As explained above, only 76 per cent of the total professional work-months were actually available for the delivery of the planned outputs. Despite all the efforts made, this situation affected the delivery of a number of programmed outputs.

7. The travel funds allocated to the programme under the regular budget continued to be limited, with an amount of $US20,600 for the 1990-1991 biennium. However, it should be indicated that funds were available from extra-budgetary sources to finance advisory missions which were part of the activities of projects executed by the Statistics Division. An account of these activities is given in document E/ECA/PSD.7/8 on ECA technical assistance in planning, statistics, demography and information science.

8. A summary of the activities carried out within the framework of the 1990-1991 work programme is given below. As in the past, these are considered under the following three subprogrammes: statistical development, economic statistics and censuses and surveys.

Subprogramme 1: Statistical Development

9. Under this subprogramme, one post at the P.5 level (Chief, Statistical Development Section) and one post at the P.4 level (Chief, Statistical Data Base) were vacant for a total of 12.5 work-months during the biennium 1990-1991. The post at the P.5 level was filled, through the vacancy management, by the former Chief, Economic Statistics Section, who had to continue to supervise the work of that section on a part time basis in order not to disrupt the on-going activities. The P.4 post was filled in March 1990. However, the subprogramme continued to receive high priority in the ECA statistical activities.

10. Most of the outputs under programme element 1.1 - General aspects of co-ordination and development - were delivered. The reports to the sixth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers were prepared and the Conference was held as planned. Also, four issues of the Statistical Newsletter were published. Volume I of the 1988/89 African Statistical Yearbook (North and West Africa) was prepared and sent for printing. The preparation of Volume II (Central and East and Southern Africa) has encountered some delay in view of the prevailing situation already mentioned. The delivery of this output has been postponed to the first semester of 1992. It should also be indicated that an intergovernmental working group on the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s was organized in Nairobi, Kenya, in July 1991 in compliance with Resolution 683(XXV) of the sixteenth meeting of African Ministers responsible for economic planning and development held in May 1990, and its annex. The report of the working group is submitted to the Conference under a separate agenda item.

11. Under programme element 1.2 - Organizational, training and dissemination activities in the field of statistics all the reports to directors of centres participating in the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) were prepared and the seventh meeting of directors of STPA centres was held as planned. The report of the meeting is being submitted to the Conference for consideration and adoption.

12. It is worth mentioning that a wide range of statistical training activities was carried out under the project, "Statistical Development Programme for Africa (SDPA)", financed by UNDP. A brief account of such activities is given in document E/ECA/PSD.7/8 on ECA technical assistance. Under the same programme element, the 1991 issue of the Bibliography of African publications was published. For the reasons explained at the beginning of the present paper, the publication of the 1989 and 1990 issues of the African Social and Economic Indicators could not be undertaken. At the time of preparing the present report, the work on the 1989 issue was being finalized. Taking into account the time constraints and the availability of data, it is proposed for consideration by the Joint Conference that the 1990 and 1991 issues of this publication should be combined for delivery in 1992. Finally, advisory service missions to member States on statistical organization were carried out as planned.

13. All the outputs under programme element 1.3 - Statistical data base development - were delivered. The reports to the Joint Conference were prepared, the print-outs on integrated social, demographic, environmental and economic data were despatched. The 1990 issue of the Directory of African Statisticians and the 1991 issue of the Directory of Electronic Data Processing Centres and Experts in Africa were published.

14. Under the operational activities in this area, advisory missions to member States on the development and maintenance of national statistical data bases were undertaken as planned. Assistance was also provided to an STPA centre in the conduct of a subregional workshop on computer software of relevance to Africa. However, a training workshop on the use of local area micro-computer network for the development of statistical data bases for English-speaking government statisticians could not be organized due to lack of funds. It is proposed that this workshop be combined with the one for French-speaking government statisticians planned to be held in the biennium 1992-1993.

Subprogramme 2: Economic Statistics

15. Under this subprogramme, one post at the P.4 level was vacant for a total of 14 work-months.

16. Under programme element 2.1 - National accounts and finance - computer printouts were produced on national accounts, sectoral deflators/inflators for national accounts and public sector statistics and sent out to the statistical services of member States. An intergovernmental seminar on the review of the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA) was held at ECA headquarters, in Addis Ababa, in July 1990. Assistance was provided to member States to build up their national accounts capability under the SDPA project and advisory service missions were carried out on improving the availability and timeliness of basic economic statistics and applying the revised SNA.

17. Under programme element 2.2 - External trade statistics - relevant computer printouts were produced and despatched. Technical papers on Guidelines for compiling data on prices and the calculation of related index numbers and on Requirements for setting up a comprehensive data base on intra-African trade statistics were prepared. The 1990 issue of Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa, series A - direction of total trade-and series C - summary tables - were published. The 1991 issue is still under preparation and is expected to be sent for printing early in 1992. Advisory service missions to member States on improving the quality, coverage and methodology of foreign trade statistics were carried out as planned.

18. Under programme element 2.3 - Industrial and energy statistics - relevant computer printouts, including energy balance sheets and construction statistics, and a technical paper on Construction statistics practices and methods in Africa was prepared and sent to national statistical services of member States. Reports on Availability in Africa of data on new and renewable sources of energy, Needs and uses of statistics on new and renewable sources of energy and Approaches to the compilation of biomass statistics in Africa were also finalized and despatched. Advisory service missions were carried out to member States on the application of international recommendations on industrial statistics and on improving the coverage and timeliness of the data.

19. Under programme element 2.4 - Price statistics and other economic statistics - computer printouts on price statistics, agricultural statistics, transport and communications statistics and tourism statistics were produced and despatched. As part of intermediate activity, the statistical annex to the Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa (1990) has been prepared.

Subprogramme 3: Censuses and Surveys

20. Under this subprogramme, one post at the P.4 level (Environment Statistician) was vacant for a total of 11 work-months during the biennium 1990-1991 due to absence of the incumbent on sabbatical leave. However, a temporary replacement was recruited to fill in the gap for most of the period.

21. All outputs under programme element 3.1 - Demographic, social and household statistics - were delivered. Reports to the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on Support to the technical co-operation project in Central Africa (UDEAC) and the Evaluation of the African Household Survey Capability Programme at the national and regional levels were prepared. Computer printouts on demographic and social statistics were produced and despatched.

22. Under the same programme element, technical reports were prepared on an Overview of the current state and problems in the implementation of the Programme of Action on the development of civil registration systems and vital statistics collection in Africa; Review of civil registration systems and vital statistics collection in Africa (case studies); and Registration of births and deaths among nomadic populations. Some guidelines for the improvement of statistics on youth and disability in Africa as well as technical papers on the Use of sampling in African population censuses and Methods and problems of census data processing in Africa were also produced.

23. Under programme element 3.2 - Environment statistics - work on African Compendium on Environment Statistics was completed at the end of the biennium. The publication is expected to be printed during the first part of 1992. Printouts on environment statistics were prepared and despatched. A report was presented to the sixth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on the progress made in the field of environment statistics. The delivery of one output on Guidelines on environment statistics in Africa has been postponed to 1992 due to redeployment of resources to other urgent assignments. Also, the advisory missions for establishing or improving environment statistics and assisting national statistical offices in data base development and utilization of micro-computer equipment with geographical system capability have been postponed to 1992 at the request of the member States concerned.

III. WORK PROGRAMME 1992-1993

24. Annex III shows the work programme contained in the programme budget approved by the United Nations for the biennium 1992-1993. The activities for this period will aim at assisting African countries in establishing and/or developing a durable infrastructure for the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of statistical data required for planning, monitoring and evaluating social and economic development. Emphasis will also be put in development of national data processing capabilities, especially by enhancing the utilization of micro-computers, and in the improvement of the quality, relevance and timeliness of the data.

25. It should be noted that the structure and content of the narrative portion of the ECA programme budget have been modified. All the programmes under the Economic Commission for Africa have become subprogrammes. Therefore, the former programme "Statistics in Africa" has become a subprogramme titled "Statistical Development". There are no longer programme elements and the outputs/services are organized under eight categories where applicable, namely: (i) international co-operation; (ii) parliamentary services; (iii) published materials; (iv) information materials and services; (v) operational activities; (vi) co-ordination, harmonization and liaison; (vii) conference services; and (viii) administrative support.

26. The following categories are not applicable to the Statistical Development subprogramme: international co-operation, which includes settlement of disputes, special missions, production of legal instruments, depositary services, etc.; conference services and administrative support which are normally provided by common services units.

27. It should be noted that the servicing of the seventh session of the Joint Conference of African Planners Statisticians and Demographers seems to have been inadvertently omitted in the approved work programme for 1992-1993. Action will be taken in due course to correct this. Also, three working group meetings in the areas of social indicators, international trade statistics and industrial statistics have been cut due to budgetary constraints. However, we propose that the following reports should be included in the revision of the programme budget 1992-1993 under the category "Published Materials" - non-recurrent publications:

(i) Review of the various types of indexes used in international trade statistics in Africa;

(ii) The linkage of international trade statistics with other economic statistics;

(iii) Assessment of the current state of data on manufacturing in Africa;

(iv) Review of selected sources of statistical information on manufacturing conceptual framework for the development of data on manufacturing;

(v) Conceptual framework for the development of data on manufacturing;

(iv) Provisional work programme for 1994-1995.

IV : PROVISIONAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR 1994-1995

28. The provisional work programme for 1994-1995 is attached as Annex IV. It aims at assisting African countries in building up self-reliance in collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of statistical data required for planning, monitoring and evaluation of social and economic development. Special emphasis will be put on the use of micro-computers and the improvement of the quality, relevance and timeliness of the data being collected. The framework for the activities to be undertaken during the period under reference is the Strategy for the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s.

29. The structure and content of the 1994-1995 work programme follows those of the 1992-1993 one. It should be noted that only four meetings have been included in the work programme taking into account the likely availability of funds. However, other meetings (seminars, workshops and working groups) would also be organized should extrabudgetary resources be secured under specific projects. For example, the Statistics Division organized during the biennium 1990-1991 ten national workshops in census data processing, census organization and census evaluation and quality control procedures and two subregional workshops in census cartography under the project Census Training Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa, financed by the Government of Canada through UNFPA. A workshop on economic activity topics in population censuses for French-speaking African countries was also organized jointly with the UN Statistical Office (UNSO) and the International Labour Office (ILO) under the same project. In addition, two workshops for trainers involved in middle level/in-service statistical training, one for English- and the other for French-speaking African countries, were also held during the 1990-1991 biennium. Such activities fall under "Operational activities, field projects" of the new format of the work programme.

V. CONCLUSION

30. During the biennium 1990-1991, the performance of the statistics programme continued to be jeopardized by postponements carried over from the previous biennium. The situation was mainly due to delay in printing of the publications and non availability of the required funds for technical meetings. However, the programme is significantly supported by extra-budgetary resources in the form of projects and human resources in the form of regional advisers. The smooth continuation of these extrabudgetary activities will need to be maintained at the same level of achievements to sustain the programme as a whole.

31. The Joint Conference is invited to make comments and suggestions on the implementation of the ECA statistical activities during the biennium 1990-1991, the activities planned for the period 1992-1993 and the provisional work programme for 1994-1995.

ANNEX I: LIST OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF OF ECA STATISTICS DIVISION

I. REGULAR BUDGET STAFF

Office of the Chief	
Chief of the Division	Robin Andrianasolo (Madagascar)
Statistical Development Section	
Chief of Section	A.E. Cummings-Palmer (Sierra Leone)
Chief, Demographic and Social Statistics	Rene Rakotobe (Madagascar)
Chief, Statistical Data Base	A.M. Farazi (United Kingdom)
Environment Statistician	Christine Kronauer (Federal Republic of Germany)
	Beryl Turner (United Kingdom 1/
Demographic Statistician	A.M. Bakyono (Burkina Faso)
Associate Statistician (statistical data base)	V. Tankou (Cameroon)
Economic Statistics Section	
Chief of Section	Vacant 2/
Industrial Statistician	A.K. Amelewonou (Togo)
Statistician (national accounts)	S. Traore (Mali)
Statistician (trade)	E.F. Ching'anda (Malawi)
Associate Statistician (prices and tourism)	A. Ngwako (Botswana)
Regional Adviser (national accounts)	K.C. Wang 3/ (United Kingdom)

1/ Replaced temporarily Ms. Kronauer who was on Sabbatical leave.

2/ Recruitment underway through Vacancy Management.

3/ Attached to the Multi-disciplinary Advisory Group (ECA-MRAG), as from 1 January 1991.

II. PROJECT STAFF

Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics (RASDS)

Chief Technical Adviser (demographic statistics)	E.A. Colecraft (Ghana)
Regional Adviser (demographic statistics)	Hamady Sow (Mali)
Regional Adviser (data processing)	Jean-Marc Hie (Cameroon)
Regional Adviser (data processing)	Zewdie Gebeyehu 4/ (Ethiopia)
Regional Adviser (data processing)	R. De Clercq (Belgium)
Regional Adviser (census cartography)	O. Bocoum (Mali)
Regional Adviser (census cartography)	R.R. Tripathi (India)
Regional Adviser (civil registration)	A. Mayouya (Congo) 5/
Regional Adviser (sampling)	J.O. Onsembe (Kenya)

Statistical Development Programme for Africa (SDPA)

Chief Technical Adviser, (household surveys specialist)	M. Chaari (Tunisia)
ILO Regional Adviser in household Surveys, (attached to ECA Statistics Division)	R.J. Pember (Australia)

4/ Left in November 1990 and replaced by Mr. De Clercq.

5/ Transferred from UDEAC Project in September 1990.

Statistical Training Adviser	K.K. Bockor (Togo)
Statistical Training Adviser/ Household Survey Specialist	J. Banda (Zambia)

UDEAC/DEP Project

Chief Technical Adviser	Jacob Tayo (Cameroon)

ANNEX II: WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE BIENNIUM 1990-1991

14. STATISTICS IN AFRICA

During the biennium, the activities under this programme will respond to the continuing and growing need for reliable and up-to-date data. The programme will concentrate on technical assistance to improve data collection and processing of basic data and on strengthening national data bases, and on further development of the ECA statistical data base by completing work on the country profiles component. The three subprogrammes, their programme elements and related output over the biennium are described below.

Subprogramme 1. Statistical Development

Programme elements:

1.1 General aspects of co-ordination and development*

Output:

(i) Reports to the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on (a) ECA statistical activities (1988-1989), the statistical work programme (1990-1991) and the provisional work programme (1992-1993) (first quarter, 1990); (b) the use of statistical information for monitoring the implementation of development plans (first quarter, 1990); and (c) the statistical development programme for Africa (first quarter, 1990);

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Statistical Newsletter (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991); and (b) African Statistical Yearbook (fourth quarter, 1990 and 1991).

1.2 Organizational, training and dissemination activities in the field of statistics.

Output:

(i) Reports to directors of centres participating in the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) on (a) the progress made in the implementation of the special assistance programme to the Portuguese-speaking countries in the field of statistical training (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) the participation of women in statistical development in Africa (fourth quarter, 1990); and (c) specialized training and post-graduate studies at STPA centres (second quarter, 1991);

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* Highest priority.

(ii) Technical publications: (a) African Social and Economic Indicators (fourth quarter, 1990 and 1991); and (b) Bibliography of African Statistical Publications (fourth quarter, 1991).

Operational activities: Advisory service missions to member States, upon request, on statistical organization (second quarter, 1990 and 1991).

1.3 Statistical data base development.

Output:

(i) Reports to the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on (a) the development and maintenance of national statistical data bases (first quarter, 1990); and (b) guidelines on the acquisition of computer facilities, including microcomputers, and their supporting software for statistical computing (first quarter, 1990);

(ii) Technical publications: (a) integrated social, demographic, environmental and economic data (third quarter, 1990 and 1991); (b) Directory of Electronic Data Processing Centres and Experts in Africa (first quarter, 1991); and (c) Directory of African Statisticians (first quarter 1990);

Operational activities: (a) substantive servicing of and reports on a training workshop on the use of local area microcomputer networks for the development of statistical data bases, for English-speaking government statisticians (fourth quarter, 1991); and (b) advisory service missions to member States, upon request, on the development and maintenance of national statistical data bases (fourth quarter, 1990; second quarter, 1991).

Subprogramme 2. Economic statistics

Programme elements:

2.1 National accounts and finance

Output:

(i) Computer printouts on (a) national accounts (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991); (b) sectoral deflators/inflators for national accounts (fourth quarter, 1990 and 1991); and (c) public sector statistics (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991);

(ii) Substantive servicing of an intergovernmental seminar on the revised United Nations System of National Accounts (first quarter, 1990);

Operational activities: (a) assistance to ECA member States to build up their national accounts capability under the project "Statistical Development Programme for Africa" (1990); and (b) advisory service missions to member States, upon request, on improving the availability and timeliness of basic economic statistics and applying the revised United Nations System of National Accounts (1990 and 1991).

2.2 External trade statistics

Output:

(i) Computer printouts on international trade statistics for government statisticians and planners (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991);

(ii) Technical publications: (a) guidelines for compiling data on prices and the calculation of related index numbers (second quarter, 1990); (b) requirements for setting up a comprehensive data base on inter-African trade statistics (second quarter, 1991); and (c) Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa: (i) series A: direction of total trade (fourth quarter, 1990 and 1991); and (ii) series C: summary tables (fourth quarter, 1990 and 1991).

Operational activities: Advisory service missions to member States, upon request, on improving the quality, coverage and methodology of foreign trade statistics (second quarter, 1990 and 1991).

2.3 Industrial and energy statistics

Output:

(i) Computer printouts on industrial statistics, including energy balance sheets and construction statistics: practices and methods in Africa (second quarter, 1990);

(ii) Technical publication: construction statistics (one each, fourth quarter, 1990 and 1991);

(iii) Reports to the intergovernmental working group on statistics of new and renewable sources of energy on (a) availability in Africa of data on new and renewable sources of energy (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) needs and uses of statistics on new and renewable sources of energy (fourth quarter, 1991); and (c) approaches to the compilation of biomass statistics in Africa (fourth quarter, 1991).

Operational activities: Advisory services missions to member States, upon request on the application of international recommendations on industrial statistics and on improving the coverage and timeliness of the data (1990 and 1991).

Price statistics and other economic statistics **

Output: Computer printouts on (a) price statistics (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991); (b) agricultural statistics (second quarter, 1990 and 1991); (c) transport and communications statistics (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991); and (d) tourism statistics (third quarter, 1990 and 1991).

Intermediate activity: Preparation of the statistical annex to the Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa (1990, 1991).

Subprogramme 3. Censuses and surveys

Programme elements:

3.1 **Demographic, social and household statistics**

Output:

(i) Reports to the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on (a) support to the technical co-operation project in Central Africa: Central African Economic and Customs Union (UDEAC), (first quarter, 1990); and (b) the evaluation of the African Household Survey Capability Programme at the national and regional levels (first quarter, 1990);

(ii) Computer printouts on demographic and social statistics (second quarter, 1990 and 1991);

(iii) Reports to the Intergovernmental Working Group on Civil Registration Systems and Vital Statistics on (a) an overview of the current state and problems in the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the Working Group at its meetings held at Addis Ababa, from 12 to 26 October 1985 (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) review of civil registration system and vital statistics collection in Africa (case studies) (fourth quarter, 1990); (c) registration of births and deaths among nomadic populations (second quarter, 1991);

(iv) Technical publications: (a) guidelines for the improvement of statistics on (i) youth in Africa (third quarter, 1990); and (ii) disability in Africa (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) the use of sampling in African population censuses (third quarter, 1991); and (c) methods and problems of census data processing in Africa (second quarter, 1991).

** Lowest priority.

3.2 Environment statistics

Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) African Compendium on Environment Statistics (first quarter, 1990); and (b) guidelines on environment statistics in Africa (fourth quarter, 1991);

(ii) Printouts/diskettes on environment statistics (fourth quarter, 1990; third quarter, 1991);

(iii) Report to the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on the progress made in the field of environment statistics (first quarter, 1990).

Operational activities: Advisory service missions to member States, upon request, for establishing or improving environment statistics and to assist national statistical offices in data base development and the utilization of microcomputer equipment with geographical information system capability.

ANNEX III

WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

SUBPROGRAMME 21 STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT

Activities will be designed to assist African countries in establishing and/or developing a durable infrastructure for the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of integrated demographic, social, economic and environment statistics; to develop the statistical data required for planning, monitoring and evaluating social and economic development; to provide continuous support for developing national data processing capabilities, especially by enhancing the utilization of micro-computers; and, to promote the improvement of the quality, relevance, timeliness and intercountry comparability of the data being collected.

Activities:

1. Parliamentary services

Parliamentary documentation: seven reports to the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on: ECA statistical activities during 1990-1991 and future work programme*; statistical requirements for monitoring and evaluating short-term policy reforms and long-term development programmes*; progress and problems in the implementation of the Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s*; progress made in the revision of the United Nations system of national accounts*; the implementation of International Trade Commodity Classifications in African countries; integration of economic, social and environment statistics: sources and methods; priorities for energy statistics in Africa, with special emphasis on new and renewable sources of energy.

2. Published materials

(a) Nine recurrent publications: Statistical Newsletter (four issues); directory of African Statisticians; directory of electronic data processing centres and experts in Africa; African Statistical Yearbook: 1990-1991 issue (Vols. I and II)*; African socio-economic indicators (annual); bibliography of African statistical publications; Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa, series A: direction of total trade; Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa, series C: summary tables; African compendium on environment statistics;

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* High priority.

(b) Ten non-recurrent publications: assessment of the use of trained statisticians in Africa as a result of the 15 years' implementation of the Statistical Training Programme for Africa; statistical training programme for Portuguese-speaking African countries: selected issues; vertical and horizontal collaboration with respect to data processing among the different organizational units in national statistical offices; development of national statistical databases and impact of new technology on statistical computing in the region; wholesale price indices of African countries: status, methods of compilation and analysis and some suggestions for their improvement; alternatives to population censuses in the provision of small areas statistics; selected issues on concepts, definitions and classifications used in population censuses and demographic surveys in Africa; applications and analysis of household survey data of particular relevance to the Africa region; environmental accounting in Africa; improvement of informal sector statistics in Africa, with special emphasis on the measurement of women's contribution in the sector;

(c) Technical material: computer printouts of annual statistical indicators in: international trade, national accounts, commodity prices, sectoral deflators/inflators for national accounts; public finance, agriculture, transport and communications, tourism, industry, energy, construction, environment, demographic and social indicators; Statistical Annex to the Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa; development and maintenance of ECA statistical database.

3. Information materials and services: wall charts**; press release for African Statistics Day - 18 November.

4. Operational activities

(a Advisory missions, in support of programmes on: statistical development and training at national, subregional and regional levels; development and maintenance of national statistical databases; improvement of international trade statistics; applying the revised United Nations system of national accounts and improving the quality of the basic economic statistics needed for their compilation as well as development policy formulation and planning; setting up integrated systems of industrial, energy and construction statistics and improving the coverage and timeliness of these data; improving demographic and social statistics, with special emphasis on improvement of data on women, children, youth and the disabled; establishing or improving environment statistics in national statistical offices;

(b) Group training: four workshops (XB) on: the development of national and regional statistical databases; household surveys; implementation of the revised United Nations system of national accounts*; the biennial meeting of directors of Centres participating in the statistical training programme for Africa;

(c) Field projects on statistical development programme for Africa; regional advisory services in demographic statistics.

5. Co-ordination, harmonization and liaison: contribution to activities of the ACC Subcommittee on Statistical Activities; and other technical co-ordination meetings of the United Nations System.

ANNEX IV: PROVISIONAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR 1994-1995

Subprogramme 21: Statistical development

Within the framework of the Strategy for the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s, activities will be designed to assist African countries in: establishing and/or developing a durable structure for the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of integrated demographic, social, economic and environment statistics; developing the statistical data required for planning, monitoring and evaluating social and economic development; further developing national statistical expertise; developing national data processing capabilities, especially by enhancing the use of micro-computers; and improving the quality, relevance, timeliness and intercountry comparability of the data being collected.

Activities

1. **Parliamentary services**

Parliamentary documentation: Six reports to the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on: ECA statistical activities (1992-1993), the statistical work programme (1994-1995) and the provisional work programme (1996-1997); Strategy for the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s: progress and selected issues; methodological and technological developments in the 1990 round of population and housing censuses in Africa; implementation of the revised United Nations System of National Accounts: experiences of selected African countries; development of national and regional statistical data bases using micro-computers; new developments in the areas of transport and tourism statistics in Africa.

2. **Published materials**

(a) Nine recurrent publications: Statistical Newsletter (four issues); Directory of African Statisticians; Directory of electronic data-processing centres and experts in Africa; African Statistical Yearbook: 1992-1993 issue (Vols. I and II); African Socio-economic Indicators (annual); Bibliography of African Statistical Publications; Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa, Series A: direction of total trade; Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa, Series C: Summary tables; African Compendium of environment statistics.

(b) Ten non recurrent publications: review of progress in postgraduate and specialized statistical training in the African region; research at national statistical services and centres participating in the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA); report on African statistician and modern information technology environment; guidelines for the improvement of

statistics on the situation of children in Africa; guidelines for the improvement of statistics on aging and elderly persons in Africa; use of micro-computers and related software packages for processing foreign trade statistics in African countries; compilation of energy balance sheets in Africa; practices and methods; prices data collection and the calculation of related index numbers; country practices; review of coverage, quality and timeliness of tourism statistics in Africa; and review of progress in development of environment statistics in the African region.

(c) Technical material: Computer printouts of annual statistical indicators in: international trade, national accounts, commodity prices, sectoral deflators for national accounts, public finance, agriculture, transport and communications, tourism, industry, energy, construction, environment; demographic and social indicators; Statistical Annex to the Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa.

3. Information materials and services:

Wall charts and graphs, press release for commemoration of the African Statistics Day - 18 November.

4. Operational activities

(a) Advisory missions in support of programmes on: Statistical development and training at national, subregional and regional levels; development and maintenance of national statistical databases; improvement of international trade statistics; applying the revised United Nations System of national accounts and improving the quality of the basic economic statistics needed for their compilation as well as development policy formulation and planning; setting up integrated systems of industrial, energy and construction statistics and improving the coverage and timeliness of these data; establishing and/or improving environment statistics in national statistical offices;

(b) Group training: Four Workshops (XB) on: statistical computing; implementation of the revised United Nations System of national accounts in African countries*; the biennial meeting of directors of centres participating in the statistical training programme for Africa; Regional workshop on Environment Statistics;

(c) Field projects on statistical development programme for Africa; regional advisory service in demographic statistics.

5. Co-ordination, harmonization and liaison

Contribution to activities of the ACC Subcommittee on Statistical activities, and other technical co-ordination meetings of the United Nations System.